Mr. P. Govinda Menon.—Have you discouraged it in any sense?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.—Certainly not. Funds are limited and we have to distribute it equitably. Certain number of libraries have been aided this year and a few more will be aided next and so on.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon.—Since this library has made a request for a grant has any other library been given a grant?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.—Yes, one at Nadavaramba and for the others I want notice.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon.—Is it not a fact that 2 miles from Nadavaramba, at Irinjalakkuda, there is a library receiving grant from the Department? Was it not the duty of the Government to see that before they gave grant to the Nadavaramba Library to give some grant to the Chalakdudy reading club?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.—The Hon'ble Member is entering into a discussion on the question. The question of distance is not a criterion. The Hon'ble member is certainly aware, that in these times no man will be willing to walk two miles in search of knowledge. I agree that Chalakkudy has a very urgent need. I may assure the Hon'ble Member that it will be attended to as early as possible.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon.—What are the better claims of Nadavaramba over this Library?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.—Distance is one consideration. Poverty of the population and other things are taken into calculation in giving grants. But in view of the discussion raised to day I will certainly again enquire into the question.

Public jetties on the foreshore of Ernakulam.

52. Mr. Shabdai S. Koder.—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of public jetties on the foreshore of Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There are 7 jetties.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder.—Is the Railway jetty included in this list?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No. It is not a public jetty. It is not maintained from public funds.

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Mr. Shabdai S. Koder.—Is the Railway jetty open to the public now ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is under the control of the Railway Department.

Attampatta Chira—construction of.

53. Mr. K. Kunhi Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) if the Government intend to take any fresh step to put up the Attampatta Chira for which there was a budgetted amount, item No. 251 of 1109 budget;

(2) if the Government is aware of the importance of the said Chira?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) The Government had to drop the proposal to construct the chira when a certain interested ryot, who is to be mainly benefited by the chira, failed to stand by an undertaking to contribute half the cost of the work. Government will reconsider their position if a similar undertaking is forthcoming.

(2) The chira will be useful.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know Sir, whether the contribution of half the cost of the work was not as a matter of fact made by the parties concerned to the extent of Rs. 1,500 deposited in the Talapilly Treasury ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.— The deposit was made; but when we prepared the estimate and asked for half the cost of the work he retracted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know was it not in response to the orders of the Government that the deposit was made?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I think the deposit was made before the estimate was prepared.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was he not asked to take back the deposit as a result of the Government thinking that the bridge and sluice that was proposed to be put at Attampatta was not necessary?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Government had not made a cost report of the Chira.

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